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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

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elects the claims of Group I (claims 1-13) and traverses the restriction requirement as follows.

The product claims of Group I are drawn to a fire extinguisher that includes as an element of the claims a flexible tube containing a gas generant charge. The process claims of Group II are drawn to a method to remanufacture a fire extinguisher that includes replacing a dip tube with a gas generator. As embodied in process claim 17, one gas generator includes a flexible tube containing a gas generant charge. As a result, the subject matters of the product claims and of the process claims are sufficiently interrelated that similar technology class / sub-classes need to be searched for each set of claims. The Examiner would not be unduly burdened evaluating all claims at the same time.

For the reasons stated in the preceding paragraph, reconsideration of the restriction requirement and consideration of all pending claims on their merits is respectfully requested. If, however, the Examiner repeats the restriction requirement and makes it Final, Applicant confirms the election of the claims of Group I, claims 1-13.

If the Examiner has any questions or believes that a discussion with Applicant's attorney would expedite prosecution, the Examiner is invited and encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below.

Please apply any credits or charge any deficiencies to our Deposit Account No. 23-1665.

Date: January 5, 2004
Reg. No. 32,489

Respectfully submitted,
Nicholas R. Arnot

Signature of Attorney
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